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4 September 1959

TO:

SUBJECT: (Informal Progress Report, Contract RD-103) (1N-1)

This letter constitutes the Forty-First Monthly Progress Report, submitted in compliance with Contract RD-103, covering the month of August, 1959.

TASK 3. AS-4A HIGH SPEED PROCESSING SYSTEM

With the approval of the cognizant Government engineer, all effort on this Task has been temporarily suspended.

TASK 5. DEVELOPMENT OF AS-5 SYSTEM

Construction of the first AS-5 System should be completed during the next reporting period. The status of all System components is as follows: Receive Drawer: Construction 95%, Test and Final Check 90%; Input-Output Drawer: Construction 75%; Test and Final Check 0%; Exciter Drawer: Construction 85%; Test and Final Check 35%; Power Amplifier Drawer: Construction 60%; Test and Final Check 0%; Power Supply Drawer: Construction 75%; Test and Final Check 35%; Recorder Drawer: Construction 20%; Test and Final Check 0%.

All mechanical parts have been completed, with the exception of a wrap-around structure for the power amplifier, new front panels for all system components, and several small items of miscellaneous hardware. Electrical modifications of the power amplifier have been completed. Progress on the recorder drawer will be delayed until a new Visicorder is procured and modified.

TASK 7. SERVICE AND SUPPORT

There has been no activity on this Task during the reporting period. Over-run funding was recently received, therefore, if still required, certain prior jobs which were held off can now be started.

TASK 8. AS-6 DATA TELEMETRY SYSTEM

Field Unit: Work on the deliverable model of the Field Unit has been completed. The unit was delivered in Washington to the cognizant Government representative for field and compatibility testing. The equip-

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ment was delivered in an unsealed condition and will be returned later to [redacted] for final testing and sealing early in October prior to the start of more extensive tests. During acceptance testing, at the Government's facility, an intermittent short circuit developed in one of the power amplifier tubes. This has been a recurrent problem and it was agreed that Contractor would look into the feasibility of replacing the tube presently employed by a more rugged type tube.

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During the early phases of acceptance testing, a transmission schedule was established with the [redacted]. Two successful transmissions were made with perfect copy of the message at a transmitter power level of approximately sixty watts.

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Due to the prior shipment of the AS-6 Base Station to the [redacted], it became necessary to modify both the RD-59 Receive Terminal [redacted] and the AS-4A Receive Terminal at Washington to receive transmissions from the Field Unit.

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The converter package was delivered to the power source contractor early in the reporting period, but upon arrival was found to be inoperative. Repairs of this equipment at the power source contractor's facility were unsuccessful. The converter is therefore being returned to [redacted] for repair and rework and will be installed in a new container as soon as it is made available by the power source contractor.

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Base Station: The AS-6 Receive and Transmit Terminals have been delivered, installed, and are presently being checked out under the supervision of one of Contractor's personnel.

The final report on this Task is now in preparation.

TASK 9. LINEAR EXCITER FOR THE AS-4A

This program has been delayed indefinitely, pending decisions on the future course of the AS-4B Program. This action has been directed by the cognizant Government engineer.

TASK 10. FABRICATION OF RS-16B

Four field units now await final testing prior to delivery to the Government. Testing has been delayed due to the use of the RD-59 Base Station in the AS-6 Field Unit test program. The Base Station is now being returned to its normal operating condition and therefore RS-16A testing will begin shortly.

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